

On site Meeting in Bremer Bay

To discuss repatriation of Ancestral Remains

21 October 2013

Attendees:

Elders

Anna Plapp
Bill Woods Jnr
Carol Pettersen
Lynette Knapp
Pat Morrison
Treasy Woods

Apologies

Alwyn Coyne
Elaine Minitier
Lester Coyne
Olivia Roberts
Winnie Larson

Shire of Jerramungup

Rob Lester	Shire President
Carolyn Daniel	Councillor
Bill Parker	CEO

Department of Aboriginal Affairs

Harley Coyne
Robert Reynolds

Purpose

The purpose of this meeting was for the Noongar community members to meet on site in Bremer Bay to discuss the specific location of the burial site and confirm this with the Shire of Jerramungup representatives. The Ancestral remain is a skull of a male 25-35 yrs which was found near the John Cove Beach in 1990. The group would like to have the remains buried as close as possible to the location where they were found.

Some community consultation about 4 years ago had suggested the dunes just to the north of the picnic area at the end of Bremer bay Road. This area was visited by the elders and DAA staff prior to the meeting.

The risk of flooding or damage in a major storm event was discussed as well as its proximity to the BBQ area and toilets. The general location was thought to be appropriate by most participants. Treasy Woods had a strong feeling that the burial site should be to left of the path through the dunes. This was agreed.

An outline of the process so far was provided. The Shire CEO indicated that the matter had been taken to council but a decision was deferred until a couple of points were resolved:

- What is the long term risk to the site in view of possible rise of sea level
- The likelihood of a café /toilet complex being built within the footprint of the existing toilet block and what impact this would have on the site.
- Discussions whether there were better options for the reburial

The Shire want the matter brought back to them but subject to their concerns being addressed and a management plan prepared (with DAA/Elders input) likely to support it.

The matter was discussed in more detail, other options were discussed but there was a general consensus amongst the elders that it should go back as close as possible to where it was first located. Questions as to how the reburial should occur including the possibility of burying it in a container was raised, this matter was not resolved and it was agreed that needed to be discussed in more detail amongst the elders prior to the reburial. The elders acknowledged kids could be playing in the area but indicated that the burial could occur in a way that does not draw attention to it.

Once it was explained that this was close to where it was found and that the elders accepted that the reburial wouldn't prevent the rebuilding of the existing toilet block and a café on that site the Shire representatives agreed in principal but indicated it needed to go back to the full council and presented at their November meeting.

After the discussion each elder then formally put their position. The combined view was summarised as follows

- The burial to occur close to where it was found
- The vegetated sand dune north of the picnic area seen to meet this requirement.
- The location be to the west of the track down to the beach
- The actual location not be highlighted.
- Consideration of a plaque in the BBQ area indicating burial in the vicinity
- Management plan be prepared for the area. This to include
 - Some additional or upgraded fencing
 - Some revegetation
- Detailed planning for the reburial to occur
- Proceed with the reburial as soon as possible

The site was visited with all participants at the meeting.

A specific location was identified

720500 E

6191536 N

(See attached map)

Actions:

- ***Bill Parker as CEO will take this back to the next meeting of the Jerramungup Shire Council on 21 November 2013***
- ***The elders will meet again to discuss details of how the reburial should occur***
- ***Drawing on outcomes of this DAA will assist with management recommendations that can go into a management plan for the area***
- ***Reburial to occur as soon as possible after approval obtained from the Shire.***

Meeting concluded.

DAA Maps



Legend

- 720500mE, 6191536mN (zone 50)
- 354260mE, 6202410mN (zone 50)
- 115° 24' 58.15" E, 34° 18' 33.15" S
- 115° 25.30" E, 34° 20.30" S
- 115° 29.30" E, 34° 20.30" S
- 115° 29.30" E, 34° 20.30" S
- 115° 28.30" E, 34° 20.30" S
- 115° 28" E, 34° 20" S
- Tieddle Tribal Boundaries



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